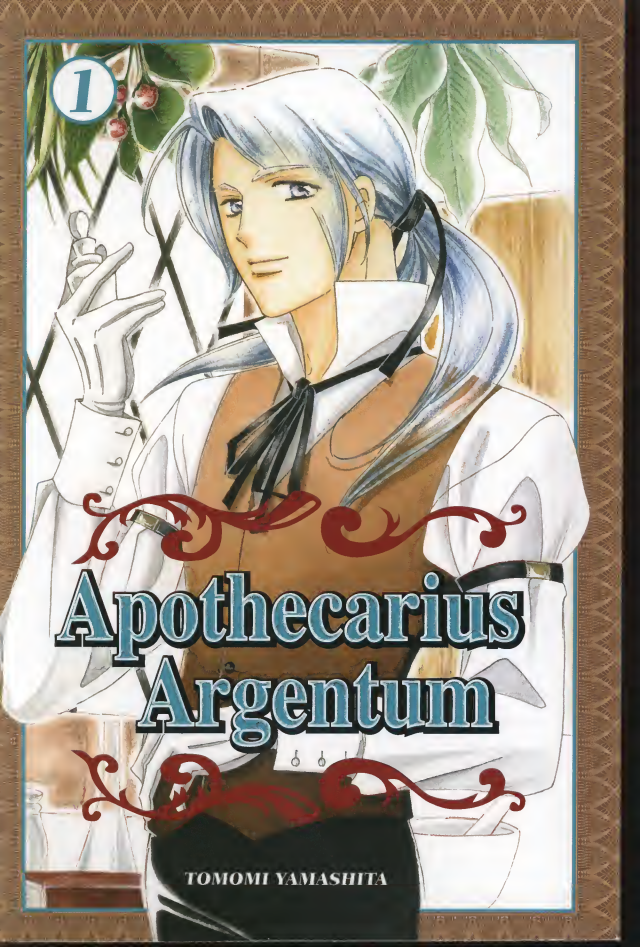


Peternitas-Scans



Re: JTF-SCANS created 02/03/03



1

Apothecarius Argentum

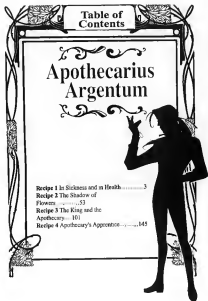
TOMOMI YAMASHITA



Apothecarius Argentum

Volume 1

By Tomomi Yamashita



The King's Castle in Berrod,
a small kingdom located on
the corner of the continent.

THIS
WAS,
SGL.

I'VE
BROUGHT AN
ALTERNATE
FOR TODAY

THE USUAL
HEALER IS
OUT ON AN
ERRAND.

NO
LADY!

PRINCESS,
HERE IS THE
APOTHECARY

I PRESENT
LADY PRINCESS,
THE DAUGHTER
OF THE KING.

SGL...

I DON'T
CARE
WHO
IT IS..

Apothecarius Argentum

Recipe 1 In Sickness and in Health











YOU SEEM TO
INSTINCTIVELY
KNOW HOW TO
PLEASE ME!

GARNA,
YOU'RE
FANTASTIC!



THE CRASSY
OLD MAN
GOT SICK AT
THE END OF
THE YEAR
AND
RETIRED

THE OLD
ATTENDANT
LIKED TO
LECHURE
HIM. IT WAS HIS
AGE.

I'M
GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR
GENEROUS
APPRECIATION

IT WAS
WORTH
HIRING A
NEW CHEF
TO PLEASE
YOU!



I AM
HINDERING
MY LADY.

I WISH YOU
HAD BEEN MY
ATTENDANT
SOONER!



I SEE.

YOU
HAVE A
MAJOR
WEAK-
NESS.

WE CAN
MAKE THAT
A TOPIC FOR
MY NEXT
LESSON

IT'S ALSO
A STRONG
SUIT, WARD
YOU.

YOU HAVE NO
FEARS, SO YOU
DON'T TAKE
PRECAUTIONS.



I'LL
PREPARE
LUNCH
RIGHT
AWAY!

I'M
HUNGRY
AFTER
ALL THAT
WORK!

OH
WOW?



WHAT'S
WRONG,
MY LADY?

OH, IT'S
NOTHING.











WE SHOULD HAVE TALKED TOGETHER LIKE THE GOOD OLD DAYS, NOT?

I BROUGHT THEM FOR YOU.

TO THANK YOU FOR THAT GOOD-AMPLUS TASTING MEDICINE AND TO SEE HOW YOU ARE.

WHY ARE YOU HERE TODAY?

HE WAS A FORMER FOOD TASTER THAT APOTHECARY?



THEY RISK THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT OTHERS. THEY'RE USUALLY SLAVES OR PEOPLE FROM LOWER TIER. HE WAS NO DIFFERENT IN THAT REGARD.

I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ONE IN THIS CASTLE.

I KNOW THAT FOOD TASTERS WERE EMPLOYED BY APOTHECARIES TO PREVENT POISONING.

SHE WAS REFUSED TO HAVE A FOOD TASTER EVER SINCE THEN.

HE WAS HER FOOD TASTER FOR A FEW YEARS, BUT SHE FORGOT HIM.

WHEN WE WERE HAVING SOME CIVIL STRIFE, THERE WERE ATTEMPTS TO POISON THE PRINCESS. HE WAS BROUGHT ON AS HER FOOD TASTER.



ABSENT, ARE YOU ABSENT?

I'M ALL RIGHT.

YOU COULD HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY BURNED!



YOU MAY BE A PRINCESS, BUT I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO INSPECT THINGS OUT OF CURIOSITY.

APOTHECARIES USE FORMS AND OTHER NECESSARY MATERIALS TO PRODUCE MEDICINE.



YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE.

AT THIS POINT, I'M NO LONGER AFRAID OF POISON.





THOSE
ARE SILE
PRINCESSES

Dear Angel,
Congratulations on
your new position.
I did not mean
to upset you
I'm sorry

"THEY'RE
THE FIRST
PRINCESSES
TO BLOOM
THIS SPRING!"

"ARGENT,
I PICKED
THIS
FOR YOU!"

PRINCESSES...

GUINA,

I TOLD YOU
I DIDN'T WANT
ANY ESCORTS.

ARGENT,
WHY DID
YOU
REMAIN
HERE?

...I HAVE
ANOTHER
QUESTION
TO ASK.

AC-
TUAL-
LY...

I'M AN
APOTHECARY,
NOT A
MIRACLE
WORKER.

WHEN PUSH
COMES TO
SHOVE, I'LL
BE CALLING
ON YOU.

YOU
COULD HAVE
LEFT THIS
COUNTRY
AND LIVED
AS A FREE
MAN.

I'M
LEAV-
ING.

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
FORCE
YOURSELF
TO ANSWER.



I POISONED THE FORMER ATTENDANT SO I COULD TAKE HIS PLACE.

WAR REQUIRES MEN AND LOADS OF MONEY.

I USED KNOW, STRAIGHT AMOUNTS OF POISON TO MAKE SURE THAT BOTH YOU AND YOUR FATHER'S DEATH WILL SEEM NATURAL.

I WAS SENT TO KILL THE ROYAL FAMILY IN THE MOST EFFICIENT MANNER. I AM A POISONER.

TO MAKE SURE YOU WOULD INGEST THE POISON, I TOOK GREAT CARE IN CHOOSING YOUR MEN.



UNFORTUNATELY, THE APOTHECARY WAS MORE BRAGGLER THAN I THOUGHT. YOU RECOVERED.

SO, I FIGURED I WOULD USE THIS NEW OPPORTUNITY TO MY ADVANTAGE.

ONCE YOU STARTED TO SHOW SYMPTOMS, I CALLED AN UNKNOWN HEALER INSTEAD OF THE USUAL APOTHECARY.

I WATCHED YOU SUFFER LATER THAT NIGHT BUT IGNORED YOUR CALL.



I'M YOUR ESCORT, BUT NOT BACK TO YOUR PALACE.

I'M HERE TO ESCORT YOU TO YOUR GRAVE, MY LADY.

I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO ANNOUNCE THAT YOU'RE USING MY MEN.

I WAS SENT BY A RIVAL COUNTRY WORKING TO BRING DOWN THE KING.

SURVIVAL, YOU WERE THE ONE TRYING TO KILL ME!



WROOO?

WHAT'S
WITH THE
SHOCK?

BE
CAREFUL.

THIS
IS...

WHAT'S
HE
DOING
HERE?

YOU WERE
TRYING TO
WED OUT
YOUR ENEMIES
BY VENTURING
OUT ALONE.
WEREN'T YOU?

YOU'RE
COMPLETELY
RACKLESS!



THAT'S
THE
GENERAL
PLOT.

...TO GET
EVEN FOR
HIS DAYS AS
YOUR FOOD-
TASTER.

YOU SLIPPED
OUT TO GO
MEET HIM,
BUT HE
SLIPS YOU
A POISON...

I HEAR
THERE
WERE...
PROBLEMS
BETWEEN YOU
AND THE
APOTHECARY.



...WITH
MY OWN
TWO
EARS.

I WANTED TO
HEAR HOW
HE FELT
ABOUT ME...

ARGENT
WAS EVERY
RIGHT TO
DETEST
ME.



...ARGENT?

HOW
DO YOU
REALLY
FEEL
ABOUT
ME...













Cowslip belongs to the Princess family.
They have sedative qualities.



JUST AS I
THOUGHT...
YOU DIDN'T
REMEMBER
WHAT YOU
SAID...

...YOU
DECIDED
TO
BECOME
A
HEALER?
IN
THAT
WAY...



I BECAME
A HEALER
BECAUSE...



I'M
REALLY
SORRY.



PERSON CAN
BE USED AS
MEDICINE TO
PROLONG LIFE
DEPENDING ON
HOW IT'S USED,
RIGHT?



I THINK
THIS IS THE
PERFECT
JOB FOR
YOU!

...I FOUND
SOMEONE
I WANTED
TO PRO-
TECT WITH
MY LIFE...



STOP!



I REFUSE
TO HAVE
ANY MORE
FOOD
TASTERS
STARTING
TODAY!

I WILL
BECOME
STRONGER
THAN
EVERYONE
ELSE!

FROM
THIS DAY
FORWARD,
I WILL
BECOME
STRONG!

I AM IN
DANGER
BECAUSE I
AM WEAK
IN BODY
AND MIND.



I
REMEMBER
NOW!
I DID
SAY
THAT
TO YOU



THIS WALL,
PLEASE.



THE PRIN-
CESS HAS
DEMANDED TO
SEE A HEALER
RIGHT AWAY!

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?



LADY
PRINCESS

WHAT'S
WRONG
THIS
TIME?

MY
LADY!
ABOUT
THE
APOTHE-
CARY HAS
ARRIVED!



...WHETHER
IN SICKNESS
OR IN
HEALTH...



I WANT
THAT
FLOWER OF
KINDNESS
TO BE ABLE
TO
FLOURISH
IN THIS
WORLD...



"ARGENT,
YOU MUST
DISAPPEAR
FROM MY
SIGHT!"



"START
OVER AND
LIVE A FULL
LIFE."

"THERE
MUST BE
SOMETHING
YOU CAN DO."

"ONE
PERSON
HAS NOT
AFFECTED
YOUR BODY!
LIVE AS A
FREE MAN!"



"NOW,
GO!"



"I INVITED
YOU, NO I
COULD
THANK
YOU FOR
SAVING MY
LIFE!"

"WELCOME,
ARGENT!"



"WILL YOU
PLEASE
JOIN ME
FOR
LUNCH?"

"WE HAVE
A LOT OF
CATCHING
UP TO DO."



"...
TO BE
HONORED."





Apothecarius Argentum

Recipe 2 The Shadow of Flowers





HIS MAJESTY
HAS ASKED
YOU TO TAKE
HIS PLACE AT
THE FESTIVAL
IN HIS
ABSENCE.



HE WANTS
ME TO
LEAD THE
HARVEST
FESTIVAL?



WAIT A
MINUTE!

I UNDERSTAND
THAT HE'S
BARELY BEEN
BECAUSE HE HAS
MATTERS THAT
NEED ATTENDING
TO, BUT HE CAN'T
EXPECT ME TO
DO THIS!

YES. HIS
BUSINESS
IS
KEEPING
HIM AWAY
LONGER
THAN
EXPECTED.

AS A
RESULT,
YOU MUST
TAKE HIS
PLACE AND
LEAD THE
FESTIVAL.



IT'S
IMPORTANT
FOR YOU TO
ATTEND TO
THE DETAILS
OF YOUR
FUTURE
ROLE.

YOU WILL
LEAD THIS
COUNTRY
IN TIME

HE CANNOT BE
AT THE CASTLE
BECAUSE HE
HAS BEEN TRYING
TO SUPPRESS
NEIGHBORING
COUNTRIES FROM
BREAKING INTO
WAR.

HIS MAJESTY
DOES NOT
HAVE MUCH
OF A
CHOICE.



ARGENT!

I DON'T
WANT
ANYTHING
MORE TO
HAPPEN
TO YOU
DURING
THE KING'S
ABSENCE.

I'M
GLAD IT'S
NOTHING
SERIOUS

HE
ALSO SAVED
MY LIFE
FROM AN
ASSASSIN...

THAT MAN
INFLUENCED
THE PALACE
AS MY
SERVANT.



For the sake
of the other
world,
please stay.

NOT A
WORD, JUST
LIKE YOU
ASKED.

...HAVEN'T
TOLD FATHER
ABOUT THE
ASSASSINATION
ATTEMPT, RIGHT?

CAROL
YOU...



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

CAROL,
I'LL SEE
YOU
LATER!

IT'S ONLY
A MATTER
OF TIME
BEFORE
THE KING
FINDS OUT...

HE'S
GONE

IF MY
FATHER
FINDS OUT,
I'LL BE IN
SO MUCH
TROUBLE!

TO MY
FENCING
LESSON!



ACTUALLY,
YOUR
FENCING
LESSON IS
ON HOLD,
PRINCESS.

WHAT
IS IT?

Block



...I'M FINE.

EXCUSE ME!
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?

SCRAPE

I GET SHE'S
A BELLIGER-
ENT QUANT
OF A YOUNG
WOMAN.

THE
"PRINCESS
OF STEEL"



TRY CHANG-
ING THIS
KATWOOD.

MAYBE THE
PROBLEM IS
WITH THE
STARTERS?

I WONDER
WHY I HAVE
A HARD TIME
SETTING THE
FIRE GOING.

THE
CHIMNEY
SEEMS TO
BE WORKING.



THANK YOU
FOR THE KAT-
WOOD AND DE-
LIVERING MY
HUSBAND'S
ARROW.

WOULD
YOU
WANT A
PRETTY
VIOLET
FLAME?

The color
means the
purple flames.

IT'S BEEN
WORKED IN
SULFUR AND
PHOSPHORUS
SO YOU CAN
JUST RUB IT
TOGETHER TO
LIGHT THEM.



YOU
NEED NOT
WORRY

I CAN'T
PROPERLY
REPRESENT
MY
COUNTRY.

I'M
HONORABLE
AT GIVING
SPEECHES.

I HAVE NO
GRACE OR
HUMILITY
OF ANY
KIND.

BEFORE,
YOU'VE BEEN
AVOIDING
LESSONS
REGARDING
ETIQUETTE
DURING
VARIOUS
ROYAL
FUNCTIONS.



AFTER ALL,
I AM YOUR
ETIQUETTE
INSTRUCTOR.
THAT'S MY
JOB.

STARTING
TODAY, I
WILL MAKE
SURE YOU
LEARN.



HOW
OLD
IS THE
PRINCESS?

HOW OLD
IS THE
PRINCESS?

I HEAR
ALL SHE
DOES IS
OWN A
SHARD
AROUND
SOME FOLKS
CALL HER THE
"PRINCESS
OF STEEL."

I
BELIEVE
SHE'S IN
THIS
YEAR.

THAT'S
UNUSUAL. SHE
HASN'T BEEN
PRESENT AT ANY
FUNCTIONS FOR
A LONG TIME.

I HEAR
LADY
PRINCESS IS
GOING TO
LEAD THE
HARVEST
FESTIVAL.







UH...
HMM?

IT'S NONE
OF YOUR
CONCERN.

I SEE

YOU LOOK
FAIR.
WHAT'S
WRONG?

DO YOU MIND
LISTENING TO
ME FOR A
MINUTE?



THE HICKLER
RAN FROM A
FACTION THAT
WAS LOST.
THAT I WAS
THE HEIR TO
THE THRONE.

I KNOW
YOU'RE
FAMILIAR
WITH THAT
SQUABBLE.

NOW, LIKE
BEFORE,
THERE ARE
MANY THAT
WOULD
REJOICE AND
FACILITATE MY
FALLURE.

... I HAD TO
MAKE A
SPEECH ON
THE STAGE
SOMEONE
MISHEARD ME,
AND I WENT
COMPLETELY
BLANK.

I CAN'T
REMEMBER
WHICH
CEREMONY,
BUT...



THE FUTURE
OF THE COUNTRY
DEPENDS
ON YOUR
PERFORMANCE

THAT MEANS
THE ENTIRE
COUNTRY
WILL BE
WATCHING
VERY
CLOSELY.

EXTREME
PRESSURE



I HAVEN'T
CALLED
FOR YOU
TODAY.

I THOUGHT
YOU
WOULD BE
BUSY WITH
WORK.
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

MY
STOMACH
HURTS...

OH,
OHAYO

I HAD
FOR-
GOTTEN
SOME-
THING.

ASUSATY

A HART
OF
SWEET
DEATH...

YOUR WORDS
WORKED
BETTER THAN
ANY MEDICINE
I COULD
HAVE TAKEN

I FEEL
A LOT
BETTER
NOW

MO. MAY
"THIS
FORTU-
TUNE
DAY..."

IT'S A
FANTASY
DAY...

1

STAND
UP
STRAIGHT
AND TUCK
YOUR
CHIN

LIFT
YOUR
HANDS
HIGHER.

YOU
WANT
TO
GLIDE

THE
BARRY
HYPER A
HOLDS
END

THE PRO-
CESS IS
PRACTICE
HERE FOR
FOR THE
FESTIVAL
CONCUL-
TATION

WAST
GOMB
CNT

FORSTADT'S EMT

...NOW, I'M
AFRAID TO
BE PART
OF ROYAL
FUNCTIONS.

IT WASN'T A
MAJOR
CATASTRO-
PHE, BUT...

THE HICKLER
WAS PROBABLY
DRUNK
BECAUSE HE
PASSED OUT
RIGHT AWAY.

THEY
WERE EVEN
SAYING THAT
I WASN'T THE
KING'S CHILD.

I HAVE
NEITHER THE
INTELLIGENCE
NOR PRESENCE
WORTHY OF THE
THRONE.

✓ I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE ARE OPPOSED TO ABG. AFTER ALL, I'M NOT MARRIED OR MOVING LIKE MY FATHER.

A LEADER
IS ABOUT
BRINGING
OUT THE
BEST IN HIS
PEOPLE.

DON'T BE
SWAYED BY
OTHER
PEOPLE'S
OPINIONS

YOU'RE
NOT A
LITTLE GIRL
ANYMORE.
YOU'VE
CHANGED.

I THINK
YOU'RE
VERY
CAPABLE
OF THAT.

YOU'VE
GIVEN ME
ACTIVATION
TO WORK
ANYWHERE

THANKS
FOR
YOUR
HELP
AND
WORKING







SHE'S BEEN
FEELING
ILL SINCE
THIS
MORNING.

HOW IS
LADY
PRINCESS?



YOU MAY
ENTER.

PRIN-
CESS
...
ALRIGHT
HAS
ARRIVED



EXCUSE
ME, MY
LADY.



SHE MAY
NOT BE
HIS
GIRL.



THE
GUARDS
MAY BE
TRUE.



"PRINCESS PRINCESS WILL BE THE KING OF THE GREAT NATION
AND PROUD TO CLOSE THE HARVEST
FESTIVAL WILL BE THE PRINCE."

SOMEONE
TRASHED THE
PRINCESS
GARDEN

IT'S JUST
A JOKE,
I'M SURE.



"YOUR FUTURE WILL BE
DUNKED LIKE THESE FLOWERS."



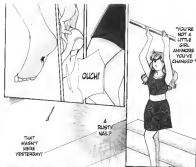
"HER
FATHER IS
SO NOBLE
AND
STRONG...

"TO THINK
THAT
SHE'LL
TAKE THE
CROWN
ONE DAY..."

...SHE'S
A
DARLING...

"WHAT'S
THE
PRO-
CESS?"
"WHAT
A DULL
AND UN-
RELIABLE
GIRL."





















YOU GIVE
PEOPLE
THE
MIRACLE
OF LIFE...

Near the
Northern Region

IT COULD
BE THE RE-
SULT OF DE-
CREASE IN
MAYPOWER
ON OUR
END...

THE BAT-
TLES HAVE
LASTED
LONGER
THAN BE-
PECTED.

THE ENEMY
IS GLITS
RESOURCE-
FUL.

WE'VE
HAD TO
PULL
BACK FOR THE
MOMENT.

YOUR
MAJESTY
WERE
STILL IN A
STALEMATE
IN THE
NORTHERN
FOREST.



...TO HURT
YOURSELF
WITH MY
OWN
POISON
AGAIN.

I ALSO
DON'T
WANT
YOU...

I'M NOT
AFRAID OF
POISON
ANYMORE.

I TOLD
YOU
ALREADY.

IS THAT
WHY YOU
WERE SO
ALOOOF
WITH ME?

...NOW YOU
CAN MAKE
FLOWERS
BLOOM IN
THE SKY.

YOUR HANDS
MAY MAKE
FLOWERS
WILT AND
DIE, BUT...

YOU'VE ALSO
GROWN UP
AND
CHANGED,
TOO.

YOU USED
TO HAVE
THE HANDS
OF DEATH.
YOU'VE
CHANGED
THEM TO
HANDS OF
LIFE.



...PREPARED
A RESIDENCE
FOR YOU
ON PALACE
GARDENS.
YOU'VE BEEN
ORDERED TO
RELOCATE.

SIR
AGENT,
WE
HAVE...

HEY!
WHAT'S
GONG ON
HERE!

THERE
ARE MANY
DANGEROUS
CHEMICALS,
SO BE VERY
CAREFUL
DURING
TRANSPORT!

CARRY
EVERYTHING
OUT!



IT'S A
DIRECT
ORDER
FROM LADY
PRINCESS

SLAM

WELCOME
AGENT!

THIS IS
GOING
TO BE
YOUR
NEW
HOME!

DO YOU
LIKE IT?



WHAT
IS IT?

I HAVE AN
URGENT
MESSAGE
FROM THE
PALACE.

YOUR
MAJESTY!

HOWEVER,
THERE ARE
SOME
CONCERNS
REGARDING
THE PRINCESS'
ATTENDANTS

PRINCESS
PRINCESS
SUCCESSFULLY
PERFORMED
HER DUTY
DURING THE
HARVEST
FESTIVAL.

WE MUST
THINK OF A
NEW PLAN
AS SOON
AS
POSSIBLE.



THE OTHER
CONCERN IS
THAT HER
FORMER FOOD
TARTER IS BACK
IN HER COMPANY
AS HER
APOTHECARY.

AN ASSASSIN
INFILTRATED HER
IMMEDIATE CIRCLE.
HE MADE AN
ATTEMPT ON HER
LIFE, BUT WAS
UNSUCCESSFUL.



THAT'S
ALL.

ARE YOU
AGENT THE
APOTHECARY?

I'M
RETURNING
TO THE
CASTLE!

I'LL LEAVE
YOU TO
CONDUCT
THE
TROOPS



YOU ARE FREE
TO DO AS YOU
PLEASE UNLESS
YOU RECEIVE
A CALL FROM
THE COURT.

AS LONG AS I
HAVE YOU, I'M
INVINCIBLE.

WHAT'S
YOUR
ANSWER,
ASIDENTY?



I'LL BE
HONORED
TO SERVE
YOU, MY
LADY.

GOOD! I
HAVE AN
ORDER
FOR YOU!

I WANT
YOU TO
ENTER
THE
PALACE.



IT'S MADE
OF STONE, SO
IT WILL BE
MUCH MORE
DURABLE.
YOU CAN
EXPERIMENT
ALL YOU
WANT.

BESIDES,
THIS IS
A MUCH
BIGGER
RESIDENCE.

I THOUGHT
THAT BIG
HOLE IN
YOUR ROOF
WOULD
CAUSE YOU
PROBLEMS.

THAT'S
NOT THE
ISSUE!



YOU ARE
GOING TO BE
THE OFFICIAL
ROYAL
APOTHECARY.

YOU CAN
OPEN UP AN
APOTHECARY
HERE.

YOU ARE
GOING TO
WORK FOR
THE BENEFIT
OF THIS
COUNTRY AND
HER PEOPLE.



...YOU CAN
COME AND
GO AS YOU
PLEASE.

BESIDES, IF
YOU'RE THE
RESIDENT
PALACE
DOCTOR...

YOUR
PRESCRIPTIONS
WERE QUITE
POPULAR AT
THE HARVEST
FESTIVAL.

ROYAL
APOTHE-
CARY?

I had a great
preliminary
test!





...KING
OF
BEAZOL.

Apothecarius Argentum



A SECRET,
ANCIENT
EASTERN
ORGANIZATION
CALLED
GADGADERS.

...RAISED
HUMAN
WEAPONS TO
BE USED AS
ASSASSINS.

WHAT IS
THAT?

I BELIEVE
IT'S A
BARBARIAN!

THE
SEAL OF
HERMES
STAFF AND
THE SILVER
HAIR...



THEIR HAIR
TURNS MORE
PLATINUM AS
THEIR TOXICITY
INCREASES.
THEY ALSO
SMELL LIKE THE
SWIFT SCENT
OF DEADLY
BLOOMS...

FLOWERS
BUT WHEN
THEY TOUCH
THEIR
BLOOD
BURNS LIKE
ACID AND CAN
BE DEADLY IF
IT ENTERS
ANOTHER
BODY.

LIKE
BARBARIC
THE
ATYPICAL
MORTALITY.
THEIR BODY
IS USUALLY
VINDICTIVE.

THEY
HAVE BEEN
SLOWLY
DOSED WITH
POISON SINCE
BIRTH AND
TRAINED IN
THE DEADLY
ARTS.



IT'S A VERY
PURCHASE
FOR AN
IMPORTANT
MAN LIKE
HOL...

IT'S A
PERFECT
FOOD
TASTER, BUT
THERE ARE
MANY OTHERS
FOR HIS
KIND.

HE
CAN'T BE
POISONED.

I HAD
HEARD OF
THEM, BUT
I'D NEVER
KEEN
ONE.







HE CAN REFUSE IF HE WISHES FROM HIS POSITION.

I WILL ACCOMPANY YOU!

WHAT WOULD YOU PROFFER, ARGENT?

MR. YOO!

HIS JOB IS TO FOLLOW MY ORDERS!

PRINCE!

YOUR JOB AS THE HEIR TO THE THRONE IS TO PROTECT THE PALACE DURING MY ABSENCE!

ARGENT, PREPARE TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.

TAKE SOME PRIDE AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR POSITION.

YOU JUST GOT BACK 9 DAYS AGO!

YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?

I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.

I SEE...

I RETURNED TO ANCHOR-TAN YOUR SAFETY. I'M NOT IN A SITUATION WHERE I CAN STAY.

FORGIVE ME, PRINCE.

WHAT?

I NEED TO BORROW ARGENT.

HE'S AN APOTHECARY, NOT A KNIGHT!

YOU'RE TAKING HIM INTO BATTLE? THAT'S DANGEROUS!

NO, HE'S NOW THE PALACE APOTHECARY.

I'M AN OLD MAN, HAVING A GOOD HEALER WILL PUT MY HEART AT EASE.



NOW DARE
YOU ATTACK
A VALUABLE
CLIENT?

I
SINCERELY
APOLOGIZE,
YOUR
HONOR.

BARILKHA
HAVE BEEN
TRAINED TO
KILL MEN IN
NUMEROUS
WAYS. PLEASE
EXERCISE
CAUTION
AROUND THIS
CHILD!

HE ONLY
SCARED
MY DOG.

HOLD
ON...

IF YOU
REFUSE...

IT'S A SIMPLE
ENOUGH JOB
YOU JUST
HAVE TO
TALK TO
DAUGHTER'S
ROOM BE-
FORE SHE
DOES.

YOU'LL
BE ABLE TO
EAT
LIKE A
KING
EVERY
DAY.

DON'T
YOU WANT
TO COME
WITH ME?

THEY
WILL BE
HEADING
TO THE
BATTLE-
FIELD.

WE HAVE
OTHER
BUSINESS
TO TEND
TO.

WE'RE GOING TO
PAY A GOVERN
VISIT. IT'S NOT
SOMETHING I
CAN DO ON MY OWN.

I'VE GOT
OTHER MEN
TAKING
CARE OF
THAT
PROBLEM
FOR ME.

I HEARD THAT
YOU WERE COM-
MENDING ABBEY
TO DEAL WITH
CHALLENGES
FROM BORDERING
COUNTRIES.

I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU
ARGENT.

I MAY
NOT HAVE A
LOT OF
PRACTICE-
TUAL...

...BUT I
HAVE YOU
ALONG FOR
THE RIDE

I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
THIS
ANAL...

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT,
YOUR
BALANCE?

...HE
LAUGHED
JUST LIKE
HE DID A
MOMENT
AGO...

...WHEN
I FIRST
MET
HIM...











I'M PRESUMING HE'S MADE SOME KIND OF ALLIANCE IN EXCHANGE FOR POWER, TERRITORY OR BOTH.

IT'S PROOF THAT WAGONS FROM SURROUNDING COUNTRIES HAVE LINED THIS PATH.

THE ROADS HERE SHOULD BE PRETTY DESOLATE, BUT I SAW NUMEROUS, FRESH WAGON TRAILS.

MY SUSPICIONS WERE CONFIRMED WHEN I SAW THE ROADS NEAR THE PALACE.



IT'S MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE THAN PROLONGING WAR AND SACRIFICING THE LIVES OF MANY SOLDIERS.

IF NEON DRAWS THE CAUSE OF CON- FUSION AND HIN- DER THE ALLIANCE WITH THEIR MEN- BODER, IT WILL ALSO MAKE IT EASIER TO BRING THIS FAMILY TO RUIN.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN...



I'M SURE IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT THAT WAY, YOUR JOB WILL BE EASIER TO AC- COMPLISH.

IN ORDER FOR A COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE TO THRIVE, WE MUST CUT AWAY ALL SPOILED PARTS BEFORE THE SPOILAGE SPREADS, NOT?

WAGONS. THIS IS A FORM OF WEAPON.



YOU WANT ME TO POISON THE BOY?

I SAID THERE'S NO NEED TO TREAT HIM.

YOU'RE SKILLED WITH THE USE OF POISON, ARE YOU NOT?

DO IT GENTLY SO HE WON'T SUFFER, AND OTHERS WON'T NOTICE.



JUST LISTEN TO ME. I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO DO THIS WITHOUT A GOOD REASON.

I UNDER- STAND THAT THIS IS AN ORDER, BUT...

THE DUNE OF THUSAN ... WAS FORGED AN ALLIANCE WITH NINGGA BEHIND MY BACK.

IS THAT WHY YOU BROUGHT ME HERE? I'M A HALLAI. MY JOB IS TO HELP PEOPLE.

...DON'T UNDER- STAND WHAT IT MEANS TO WORK FOR THE PALACE.

BOTH YOU AND MY DAUGHTER...



"I GUESS
IF YOU
DARE
ABOUT MY
TACT, YOUR
JOB
WILL BE
EASIER TO
ACCOM-
PLISH."

"TRUST
TAK IS A
GOD OF
WISDOM."

"THE ONLY
WAY TO
PROTECT
YOURSELF
IS TO
BE A
GOD."

"THE ONLY
WAY TO
PROTECT
YOURSELF
IS TO
BE A
GOD."

EPHESIA
SINCE

"THIS PLANT
CAN HEAL
OR KILL
DEPENDS
ON THE
DOSE."

"IT CAN HAVE
DRASTIC,
POSITIVE
EFFECTS FOR
COLD AND
ANYTHING, BUT
LARGE DOSES
CAUSE HEART
FAILURE."



"IF YOU
REFUSE MY
ORDER,
I'LL DEAL
WITH YOU
AND THE
TRAITOR
THAT YOU
ARE!"



"YOU'VE
ALSO
GROWN
UP AND
CHANGED."



"NOW
CHOOSE."



"I'LL DEAL
WITH YOU
AS THE
TRAITOR
THAT YOU
ARE!"

"I WANT
RESULTS
IN A
WEEK."

"IF YOU
REFUSE
MY
ORDER..."

"DO NOT
FORGET THAT I
BOUGHT YOU
ONCE, AND I
STILL OWN
YOU."

















PEOPLE MUST
SOMETIMES
FACE THE WRATH
OF REALITY AND
SHALLOW THE
PAINS THAT
LIFE CAN
DEED.

IN
ORDER
TO
SURVIVE

ARGENT
WAS THE
ONLY ONE
WHO HAD
THE
COURAGE
TO
FIGHT
FOR
HIS
SON.

MAKE
SURE THEY
DON'T BE-
COME
MORE IN-
VOLVED
WITH EACH
OTHER
THAN NE-
CESSARY.

KEEP A
CLOSE
WATCH

I WILL,
YOUR
MAJESTY.

AFTER ALL,
YOU REALLY
DON'T GET
THE CHANCE
TO DECIDE...

I
DON'T
RE-
SIGH.

ARGENT, YOU
CAN RESIGN
FROM YOUR
POSITION IF
YOU WANT.

I'M
STILL
FEELING
CON-
FUSED...

YOU WERE
ABLE TO SEE
HIS WILL AND
RESOLVE THE
PROBLEMATIC
SITUATION, AS YOU
PLANNED...

I DON'T
POSE

...EXCEPT MY
DAUGHTER TO KNOW
ME.

IF
ARGENT
POISONED
THE
YOUNG
BOY...

...HE COULD
HAVE FAILED
AND YOU BOTH
WOULD HAVE
BEEN CAP-
TURED. EITHER
WAY, HE WOULD
HAVE FOUND
WAYS FOR US
TO ESCAPE.

WERE YOU
ABLE TO TEST
ARGENT AND
TAKE CARE OF
THE SITUATION?

I JUST
DID
NOT...

I CAN STILL
USE HIM.
I'M SURE
I CAN
CRUSH THE
MAN INTO
SHOWING
HIS TRUE
COLORS.

HE'S BECOME
TOO HUMBLE
A BASTARD
THAT
REFUSES
TO KILL
PEOPLE...

I MUST
KILL THAT
ARGENT
DISGRACEFUL
MAN.

YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY??

I THOUGHT I
LOST A PRIZED
POSSIBILITY,
BUT HE'S COME
BACK. WE'LL USE
PEASANTS TO
BREAK HIM IN.

HE CAN BE
A WEAPON
FOR ON
AGAINST
US.

I'M
WORRIED
ABOUT HIM
GETTING
INTO BERRY
HANDS.





Recap 4: Apothecary's Apprentice







AGENT

I HAVE
WORK TO DO
I NEED
PRIVACY.

OF
COURSE
NOT!

THUNK



Don't forget
that the
palace
doctor
has
a
secret
passage
to
the
city.

WORKY



HIS LACK OF
BUSINESS WAS
NOTHING TO DO
WITH HIS SKILL.
MAYBE PEOPLE
FEEL RELUCTANT
BECAUSE HE
WORKS FOR THE
ROYAL COURT?

THAT CAN'T
BE. BEING THE
PALACE APOTHE-
CARY HELPED THE
LAST ONE WITH
HIS BUSINESS. HE
HAD MORE PA-
TIENTS THAN HE
COULD CARE FOR.
HE WAS ROLLING
IN MONEY!

ROLLING
IN
MONEY
—?

AGENT,
DON'T
BE SO
ANGRY!

PLEASE
GIVE ME
PRIVACY
WHILE I
FORGULATE
THESE
THINGS!

SLAM



WOW
YOU NICE
TO ME!

A CHILD
RUN AWAY
FROM YOU?
THAT'S A
NOT
GOOD!

PEOPLE MAY
LOOK AT YOU
AND THINK
YOU'RE
EXPERIENCED
DUE TO YOUR
YOUTH.

THAT
MAKES
SENSE...

MAYBE
THIS PLACE
IS LACKING
PRIVACY.

MY LIEK,
I'M NOT
YOUR
DOLL...

FINE, YOU
SHOULD TRY
TO LOOK LIKE
YOUR PEERS.

WE WERE
ABLE TO GET
MY FATHER'S
PERMISSION,
AND YOU
FINALLY
OPENED
YOUR
STORE!

IT'S
BEEN
A FEW
WEEKS AND
YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
PATIENTS!

YOU'VE
TRIED
BEING
DRAGONS
AND
ANGELS!











WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I CAN'T JUST WATCH HIM DIE!

I'M HERE TO GET MEDICINE, BUT...

THE MEDICINE IS HERE!
I'VE FOUND IT!
I'VE FOUND IT!
I'VE FOUND IT!

MY FATHER'S JUST HAD ANOTHER ATTACK.

WHAT'S WRONG?



I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!

IT MAY BE BETTER THAN NOTHING AT ALL!



WELL?? ARE YOU SURE?

IF YOU WANT SOME MEDICINE THAT I MADE, I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU!

NO ONE'S USING POISONOUS PLANTS...

THE PLANT HAS MULTIPLE TOXIC COMPOUNDS...



JUST PROMISE ME THAT YOU WON'T RUINAGE MY GARDEN.

I DON'T WANT ANY.

I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY.



SLAM!
NOT I CAN'T GIVE OUT MEDICINE FOR FREE!

PLEASE! I PROMISE TO PAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

HE SEEMS ANNOYED...

NOW I OWE MY LIFE TO A COMPETITOR...





I THINK
THAT'S A
WORTHY
GOAL!

I'LL
BE YOUR
ASSISTANT
TODAY TO
HELP YOU
ACHIEVE
THIS!

DELICIOUS,
EASY TO
SWALLOW,
WITH A
PLEASANT
AFTERTASTE

SLAM



I DON'T
KNOW
A LOT
ABOUT
MAKING
MEDICINE

I
KNOW
...

I MAY
NOT BE
OF MUCH
HELP,
BUT ..

I ALSO
DON'T
WANT ANY
OF YOUR
NONSENSE
OR YOUR
ADVICE!

I NEED
SOME
TIME TO
MYSELF!

ARGENT!



YOU MEDITATED
THE PRINCIPLES
WITH YOUR
SPELL TO
BECOME THE
GREATEST
HEALER!

YOU
DON'T
BELONG
TO THE
GUILD,
STUPID!

I HEAR YOU
LIKE POISON
TO CREATE
STRANGE
POTIONS.



NOW I
UNDERSTAND...



I WAS
THINKING
ABOUT YOUR
LACK OF
CUSTOMERS.
I THINK THE
PROBLEM IS
THE TASTE!

YOUR
MEDICINES
TASTE LIKE
HELL, AND
THAT'S GOT
TO CHANGE.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE,
FOOL
GIBBY?

WELCOME
BACK,
ARGENT!

ARGENT



HEY!

LADY FRALLA,
I DIDN'T
MEAN
TO...



NO WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

DO I
NEED
SOMETHING?



I
SEE...

WELL, I
DON'T
HAVE
MANY
TIPS...

THAT WAS
AMAZING! I
KNOW WHY
YOU'RE THE
COURT
APOTHECARY
NOW!

YOUR
MEDICINE
REALLY
HELPED MY
FRIEND WITH
A BAD HEART.

I
WANTED
TO
THANK
YOU.



I TRIED
ALL KINDS
OF ADVICE
IT'S NOT
WORKING...

ADVICE?

WE EVEN
PRACTICED
PATIENT-
HEALER ETI-
QUETTE WITH
THE PRINCESS
AND HER IN-
STRUCTOR.



I CAN'T LIST
YOU IN HERE
RIGHT NOW.

I JUST
WANT
TO HELP
YOU!
LET ME
IN!



I DON'T
NEED
PEOPLE'S
HELP!

I CAN
DO THIS
ON MY
OWN! STOP
BOTHERING
ME!

ARGENT!

THEN
YOU
CAN
JUST...



...STAY
HOLED UP
INSIDE
AND ROT
TO DEATH!

KI
CK



HE'S BEEN
ACCUSED
OF MAKING
STRANGE
POTIONS
AND
REFUSING
YOU
TO GET HIS
POSITION.

APPARENTLY,
THE BUILD
HAS BEEN
SPREADING
RUMORS
ABOUT
ARGENT

WELL, I
FOUND OUT
SOMETHING
NEW ABOUT
ARGENT'S
PROBLEM.

ARGENT
IS A
JERK!



...TO REMAIN
PROFITABLE
AND DETER-
MINE THE
CONDUCT
OF ITS
MEMBERS

ALL
PROFESSIONS
HAVE A BUILD.
IT EXISTS TO
ASSIST THE
MEMBERS...

WHY WOULD
THE BUILD
DO SUCH A
THING?



I'M
GOING
TO GO
TALK TO
THE BUILD!

POW-
CHUNK!

...AND
TALANTED.
EVEN
FATHER
ADmits
THAT
MUCH!

I ADMIT THAT
THERE WAS
PREJUDICIAL
TREATMENT
INVOLVED, BUT HE IS
KNOWLEDGE-
ABLE...

ARGENT IS
NOT A JERK-
HEAD, AND
HE'S BEEN
MADE AN
APOTHECARY
AT SUCH A
YOUNG AGE.

THE
CRITCHES
ARE TO BE
EXPECTED.



POW-
CHUNK!
I'M
GOING
TO GO
TALK TO
THE BUILD!

WHAT'S
YOUR
RELATION-
SHIP WITH
HER?

HEY... THE
PRINCESS
SEEMS
ACTUALLY
FAMILIAR
WITH YOU.

TAKE
YOUR
PARENTS
CHARGE
YOUR
DUTY!
OH!



THE
FORMER
PALACE
APOTHECA-
RY, RIGHT?

I KNOW

A GUY IS
SPREADING
AND
RUMORS
ABOUT
YOU

BESIDES,
YOUR LACK
OF PATIENTS
HAS NOTHING
TO DO WITH YOU.



HOW
LONG
HAVE
YOU
FOUNDED
THIS?

YOU'RE HIS
APPRENTICE
AND YOU'VE
BEEN
ORDERED TO
SPY ON ME.

AM I RIGHT,
APPRENTICE
SOME?



YOU'RE
BACK
ALREADY,
PRINCESS?

IT'S NOT
HARD TO
THINK OF
WHAT MY
COMPETITION
MIGHT DO

SINCE I
FIRST
MET YOU.





I'VE BEEN
FEELING THAT
EXPERIENCE
AND RESULTS
MEAN MORE
THAN CRED-
ENTIALS.

HE
WINGS
ONTO
WHAT HE
LEARNED
AND
REFUSES
TO LEARN
ANYTHING
NEW!

LOOK AT MY
BORN. HE
HAS CREDEN-
TIALS, AND
THAT'S ALL
HE WANTS.

LOOKS
LIKE
YOU'VE
FIGURED
WHAT'S
IMPORTANT
ALREADY.

WHY
DID YOU
BECOME
A HEALER?

ARGENT

NOW, I'M
FEELING LIKE
I THOUGHT
I MIGHT BE
SAVED BY
OTHERS IF
I COULD
HELP THEM.

I THINK
I'VE WANTED
FOR IT. I
WANTED TO
HELP
PEOPLE.

OR NO I
THOUGHT.

WHAT
ARE YOU
THINKING
THAT
FORTY

YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
PATIENTS.
WHY? LET'S
EAT THIS
TOGETHER.

I AMPO-
SIZE FOR
WHAT
I SAID.

THIS
IS FOR
YOU.

HE WAS SKILLED,
AND THE LOCALS
APPRECIATED HIM.
HOWEVER, HIS
CONFESSION
STARTED TO
DISTURB HIS
BUSINESS.

HE WASN'T
RECOGNIZED
BY THE GUILD,
THOUGH HE
WAS SELF-
TALKING.

MY DAD
WAS A
HEALER,
TOO.

LATELY,
I'M NOT
SO
SURE...

THAT'S WHEN I
DECIDED I WAS
GOING TO BE A
LEGITIMATE
APOTHECARY
NO MATTER
WHAT!

HE WAS KIND
OF A CRAZY
MAN, AND
WASN'T GOOD
AT DEALING
WITH PEOPLE.
HE MADE
HIMSELF INTO
THE ENEMY
OF THE GUILD.

THEY
SPREAD RU-
MORS THAT
HE WAS A
FRAUD. HIS
BUSINESS
WENT DOWN-
HILL, AND HE
GOT SICK
AND DIED.

POUND

THE ACTIVE PROPERTIES OF FORELLOVER ARE NOT WATER-SOLUBLE. TO EXTRACT, YOU NEED TO USE A SOLVENT...

I SEE...

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I DON'T NEED AN AP-
PREN-
TICE YD
TELL ME
NOW TO
DO MY
JOB!

DE
QUERY?

DON'T YOU
THINK YOU
SHOULD ASK
ARSENT HOW
TO MAKE
THIS?

WE NEED TO
GET READY
ABOUT AHEAD
WE'LL FIRST
FORMULATE
THE SOLVENT.

I'VE GOT PATENTS
TELLING
OTHERS
THAT MY
MEDICATIONS
DON'T WORK.

WHERE IS THE
SHOPPE
OF THE
FORMER
COURT
APOTHE-
CARY?

PRO-
CESS!

ARSENT,
THE
PRINCESS
IS GETTING
READY TO
SLEEP.





THEY'RE UN-
CONSCIOUS
FROM
SOLVENT
POISONING!

THE LAB
IS LOCKED
FROM THE
INSIDE!



IT VAPORIZED
EASILY. INHALING
THE GAS CAUS-
ES HEADACHE,
DIZZINESS AND
STUPOR!

THE SOLVENT
USED FOR THE
FORMULA IS
VERY POISON!

POISON-
ING?



ANTI-
DOZE?

WE
NEED TO
PREPARE
AN ANTI-
DOZE!

WE DON'T
HAVE
TIME. WE
HAVE TO
MAKE IT
HERE.



SOME-
ONE
WAS
BACK?

IT'S NOT
SAFE FOR
YOU TO GO
IN THERE,
ARGENT!



ARGENT,
WHAT THE
HELL?
IT'S SO
LATE!

IT'S AN
EMERGENCY!
I NEED YOU
TO TAKE ME
TO HIS
SHOPPE
RIGHT AWAY!

WH...
SURE!

SOME-
WHERE
ARE
YOU?



THEY WERE
TRYING TO
MAKE YOUR
FORMULA...
BUT THEY'VE
RAN OUT!

ARGENT!
I NEED
YOUR
HELP!



WE'RE MET
HERE TO
CHECK
THIS
PLACE?



ARGENT,
I'LL HELP
YOU
TRASH
THIS
JUNK!

SOME!





The last one
you brought
here didn't
work either.

THAT'S THE
REASON I
CAN HANDLE
TODAY'S MOST
GAYT.

THEY'RE
USED TO
BE AS-
SASSINS,
FEED POISON
AND TRAINED
IN THE DEADLY
ARTS.
OUR ENTIRE
BODY IS POI-
SONOUS AS
A RESULT,
AND OUR
BLOOD
FUNCTIONS
AS WEAP-
ONS!

WASHT IS A
FORMER
SLAVE THAT
WAS
PURCHASED
AS MY FOOD
TASTER.

THAT'S
ALL.

I ALSO
WON'T
ACCEPT
APPREN-
TICES.

THEREFORE, I
CAN'T JOIN
THE GUILD.

NOW I
KNOW
WHY...

I SEE...

LET'S
GO, MY
LADY!

I'M SORRY,
BUT I WON'T
HAVE AN
APPRENTICE

YOU'RE COURAGEOUS!
YOU'RE BRAGGING WITH
INFORMATION AND
YOU CAN HANDLE
POISONS WITH
GRACE AND
WITHOUT PAIN!

I WANT
TO BE
LIKE
YOU!

WHY? I
KNOW I'M A
NOVICE, BUT
I'LL WORK
HARD!

I CAN DO WHAT
I DO BECAUSE
PEOPLE DON'T
WORK ON ME

IT'A TELL
YOU SOMETHING.

SOME, ANOTHER
MISTAKE LIKE
THIS COULD
HAPPEN.

YOU MUST
HAVE HEARD
THE LEGEND OF
THE INADVISK.

MY BODY
HAS BUILT
UP TOLER-
ANCE

WHY?

HE DID
WAKE UP
EARLY
FROM THE
SLEEPING
POTION...

I'M GOING
TO FORGE
MY OWN
PATH!

I GUT
THAT
PLACE!

DID YOU
BRING ALL
THOSE
PATENTS?
DON'T YOU
HAVE WORK
TO DO?

THIS IS
THE SHOPS
OF ARGENT,
THE ROYAL
APOTHECARY!

HA HA
HA

BESIDES,
YOU SEEM
ACTUALLY
BUSY.
NEED A
HAND?

CAN YOU
HELP ME?

YES,
MASTER!

GET ME
SOME
SEVERAL
BULBS OF
PHEASANTS
AND
SEVERAL
GASTON
BEAN
ROOTS.
YOU
KNOW
WHERE
TO FIND
THOSE,
RIGHT?

YOU
KNOW
WHERE
TO FIND
THOSE,
RIGHT?

ARGENT,
I STILL

...WANT
TO BE A
HEALER
JUST LIKE
YOU.

WON'T
SNACKS
WILL DIS-
RUPT YOUR
DIGESTIVE
RHYTHM.

...IT'S SO
SURPRISING!

I'M
HUNGRY

CAN YOU
HELP ME
WITH MY
TOOTH-
ACHE?

MY
FACE

I HAVE
A HEAD-
ACHE.

ARGENT, MY
CHILD JUST
SCARED
HERSELF...

I'M
COM-
ING!

I JUST
SEE AN
ENDLESS
LINE OF
CUSTOM-
ERS...

I THINK THE
RECENT IN-
CIDENT
WORKED
AS A POSITIVE
ADVERTISE-
MENT

HE'S
BUSY
ALL OF A
SUDDEN!

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